CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE INFORMAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
HELD WEDNESDAY, 30 JULY 1986 AT 6:30 P.M.
IN ROOM H-762, HALL BUILDING, SIR GEORGE WILLIAMS CAMPUS

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Chairperson John Moore called the meeting to order at 7:00 without quorum. There were no objections to proceeding with the informational items on the Agenda.

PRESENT:

Co-Presidents:

Karen Takacs
Scott White

Commerce:

Scott Bergen
Tony Ghannamy

Engineering:

Jon Jolivet

Arts and Science:

Maria Calderone
Jim Locke
Emma Tibaldo

Fine Arts:

Francois Gurik

ABSENT:

Arts and Science: Glen Cheverie (W/R), Joe Fortune, Mike Foster, Amanda Masterman, Linda Piovesan, Bettina Rosenberg (W/R), Julie Smith, Scott Townsend, Brian Zelnicker (W/R)
Commerce: Karen Ashton
Engineering: Dan Artola
Fine Arts: Ian Fleet (W/R), Elizabeth Isaac, Keren Penney (W/R)

Advisors to the Board Present: Francois Desrosiers, Researcher; Susan Hunt, Student Life V.P.; Gracie MacDonald, Communications V.P.; Scott Robertson, Education V.P.; Marc Sicard, External V.P.

4. Chairperson's Remarks:

Chairperson John Moore wished to have it noted that the adjournment of the 51st Meeting was forced due to lack of quorum. He added that he had contacted the Directors about their absence from meetings, and asked them to make an effort to attend or resign. He reported that he had received three more resignations: two Engineering representatives, James Crone and Doug Hardy; and one Commerce student, Bernard Villemaire. This brings to 23 the number of Directors presently serving on the Board. John Moore added that in September, when all the Directors are back in town, it should not be quite so difficult to achieve quorum.

5. Reports:

a) Co-Presidents' Report:

Regarding Orientation, Scott White announced that the slogan for the program is "Concordia's T.O.P.S.", meaning Total Orientation Programming Service. T.O.P.S. will combine both the academic and social sides of Orientation. "Opus" (the penguin from "Bloom County") is the mascot. There are 2,600 new students this year, down 600 from previous years. These new students will be receiving envelopes containing letters from Frank Benson, Academic Chairperson, Orientation; Dr. S. McEvenue, Associate Vice-Rector, Academic, Curriculum and Planning; Karen Takacs and Scott White; appointment cards for orientation sesions which will be presented at various times between August 25 and September 2 at both campuses; and discount coupons for a "Doug and the Slugs" concert. On the list of speakers for Orientation, Dr. Kenniff is scheduled to speak, but he will be out of town and will be replaced by Dr. Francis Whyte, Acting Rector at the time. On the social side of orientation, Bob Rattray and his committee have lined up two bands, "FM" and "Images in Vogue" for "Bud Rock". There will be a lunchtime series of lectures by professors (e.g., Graeme Decarie). There is a chance that Canadian publisher Jack MacLelland might be presented as a speaker, or there will be a debate on "star wars". There will be a spaghetti dinner and a movie night. There will also be the "Bread and Puppet Theatre", an American troupe with performers from South Africa. Their show requires audience participation. It will be presented for two evenings at the end of August at the F.C. Smith Auditorium for a $5/person admisssion charge. The troupe will be staying at Belmore House which has cut down considerably the money needed to be put out for accommodations for them. There might also be tours of the big exhibits (e.g., Miro at Museum of Fine Arts). Jim Locke asked what the cost involved in all of this would be. Scott White estimated that it would be about $15,000. Scott White added that part of Orientation has been funded by the Concordia Council on Student Life in the past, and that he, Karen Takacs, and Frank Benson would be meeting with Dr. Giguere, Vice-Rector, Services tomorrow to see if Orientation could become a permanent fixture on the CCSL budget (they will be asking for $10,000 for this item).

Karen Takacs reported that everything is right on time with the handbook. The cover is going to the printer tomorrow, and the rest will be sent on Monday. The advertising representatives brought in more revenue than expected ($20,000). This is the first year that the handbook will be ready early.

The Capital Campaign Office will be distributing glossy leaflets, in a "question and answer" format, on the Capital Campaign. These leaflets are being sent together with a dual-purpose pledge card/withdrawl form and a letter (signed but not written by the Co-Presidents). There are three types of letter: (1) for new students, (2) for students who have contributed before, and (3) for students who have previously withdrawn (students who withdrew last year were not billed this year, so they can now contribute with the pledge card if they are so inclined). The major changes brought about are firstly, that the students will deal directly with the Accounts Department and will not have to go through CUSA to request a withdrawal, and secondly, the deadlines for withdrawal have been changed to correspond with the dates for course withdrawal.

(7:15)

Regarding the proposed Women's Centre, Karen Takacs reported that she had met with Elizabeth Morey of the Status of Women Office. It has been decided that the Women's Centre should not be just a CUSA initiative because then it would be left up to the Co-Presidents and the Board each year, and there is no guarantee that they would be as sympathetic to the issues each year. It is felt that it would be much better if the Women's Centre was entrenched in the University and run by a number of bodies within the University. This would also ensure that its mandate does not overlap with the functions of other groups (e.g. Simone de Beauvoir Institute). The following groups will be involved in setting up the Women's Centre: CUSA, Concordia Women's Collective, Women's Studies Students' Association, Status of Women Office, Simone de Beauvoir Institute, Concordia University Faculty Association, Concordia University Part-time Faculty Association, and Concordia University Non-Academic Staff Association. Plans now include hiring a reasearcher to look at other women's centres to see how they operate, how they are funded, the resources they use, their mandates, etc. CUSA will contribute to the researcher's salary. It is hoped that the Women's Centre will have peer counselling, legal aid, and a physician. The Women's Centre will be housed at 2070 Mackay.

Karen Takacs introduced Francois Desrosiers to speak on the status of the brief that will be submitted to the Parliamentary Commission on University Financing. Francois Desrosiers reported that the brief is in the final stage, and that he is doing the editing of the document (45 pages plus annexes). In the brief, CUSA recommends that the government should finance universities to a higher degree. The funding formula was created by the government at a time when universities were in a process of development, and the funding formula should be updated. Another major change that CUSA is recommending concerns the qualifications for independent/dependent status for loans and bursaries. Also, CUSA is the only student association to advocate a tuition increase, given specific conditions regarding loans and bursaries, professors' salaries, conditions for part-time teachers, and benefits for support staff to counteract the deficits of past years. CUSA will recommend a 70% increase in tuition, in proportion to the increase in minimum wage since 1977 (tuition has not gone up since then, but minimum wage has risen by almost 70%). Should this money go to pay the government deficit, then CUSA would be opposed. Copies of the final version of the brief will be distributed next week. Francois Desrosiers thanked Gracie MacDonald for her help on the financial aid aspects of the brief and Scott Robertson for his help on the course evaluation and tenure aspects.

Scott White estimated that the legal fees for this year would be approximately $17,000. This figure was broken down as follows: about $6,000 for the Girdwood case ($5,000 plus interest plus court costs), CUSA's legal bills for the Girdwood case, the lawyer's retainer fee, and miscellaneous legal items.

(7:30)

Karen Takacs announced that there was a proposal by a coalition of CUSA, FAECUM (Universite de Montreal), and McGill Students' Union for a publicity campaign to start in September to advise the public of the students' point of view on the issue of university financing. Francois Desrosiers added that the government has the resources to publicize their point of view during the Parliamentary Commission in the fall, and that a students' publicity campaign at this time would pressure the government and would also serve to inform the public. There are three aspects to this publicity

campaign: firstly, ads in the Metro at key stations (eg. McGill, Guy, etc.) explaining how bad the underfunding situation is; secondly, radio advertisements--a thirty-second spot giving the students' perspective (Universite de Montreal is working with CKOI, Concordia is working with CHOM, and McGill can work with whatever stations are left); and thirdly, posters and stickers. CUSA will contribute $3,100 to this publicity campaign. Through the orientation program, CUSA is hoping to sensitize the new students to this situation. Marc Sicard asked for volunteers to help out with this campaign. He stated that there would be a meeting next week with FAECUM to delegate responsibilities. Karen Takacs informed the Board that FAECUM had been doing an important survey of the socio-economic status of Quebec students. Francois Desrosiers added that the results of this survey should be available by the time of the Parliamentary Commission.

Scott White stated that the work on the Campus Centre basement is well under way and that CUSA should be able to move its Loyola operations by the middle-to-end of August. The only work remaining to be done is installing the ceiling, painting, carpeting, and installing the roll-up window at the front desk.

Scott White reported that "the Concordian" will be moving to the first floor lounge area of the P-Annex. Other moves within the P-Annex might take place as a result (eg., Biology Students' Association) but plans are not definite at this time.

b) Executive Reports:

External V.P. Marc Sicard distributed two documents: one by Peter Wheeland from May 1985 recommending that ANEQ be given one more year, and one by Francois Desrosiers recommending 1985-86 as the last year for CUSA to be a member of ANEQ. He stated that he is working on a document tracing the history of ANEQ and the Quebec student movement which will help the Board in making its decision in September on whether or not to remain a member of ANEQ. This document will be distributed at the next Board meeting. Karen Takacs urged the Directors to start thinking about the membership question because it will soon be time to make the decision.

On behalf of Services V.P., Brent Jones, Scott White reported that progress was being made in obtaining five-cent photocopiers. Brent Jones had been negotiating with several of the photocopier manufacturers in search of the best deal.

(7:45)

Jim Locke reported that the Liaison Committee has planned to hold "Clubs on Campus" days during the orientation program. The designated days are the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of the first week of classes on both campuses. He stated that the Liaison Committee would be asking the Directors and Executives to assist in awarding the clubs for best display, most new recruits, etc. Jim Locke also reported that the Chemistry Club may be re-established this year, and added that eight clubs would be brought forward to FinCom for budgets next week.

Scott Robertson, Education V.P., reported that he had been working on the brief for the Parliamentary Commission on evaluating tenure for professors (recommending that the granting of tenure be taken out of the individual

departments and put into the hands of a university body). He has also been working on the release forms for course evaluations.

c) Senate:

Scott Robertson reported that the Hiring Committee had been interviewing candidates for the 10 positions on Senate. These interviews will be continuing until Friday of this week. The Hiring Committee will be presenting the candidates for Senate at the next Board meeting.

d) Report on the Capital Campaign:

This Item was covered in the Co-Presidents' Report.

e) Academic Materials Fee:

Scott White reported that the Minister for Higher Education, Hon. Claude Ryan, had made a pronouncement approving fees such as the Academic Materials Fee. However, the government has set rules: the maximum that can be charged for this is $100 per year, and the university has to submit a report on how the money was spent. The Board of Governors approved a charge of $3.50 per credit, but this will most likely be reduced to $3.30 per credit so as not to go over the prescribed limit of $100 per year. There will be one central collection of the fee. All real costs of the courses are allowed to be taken into consideration for determining the fee (such as secretarial salaries, etc.). Karen Takacs stated that the university will be allowed to charge more than $100 per year if it can prove that certain departments need more money. Francois Desrosiers said that the government will reduce the operating budget of the university if the university is unable to substantiate how the money was spent. Scott White stated that the fees for the summer courses include the Academic Materials Fee, but added that this fee should not be charged yet. He felt that the University was not being open about the fee--there is a publicity problem, and there is also the issue of double-billing. Jim Locke asked if there was any way to know exactly what the fee covers, and used the example of having to pay in class for photocopies. Karen Takacs felt that when the fee is charged, the professors should stop charging directly for photocopying costs. Francois Desrosiers stated that the purpose of the fee is for the University to pay off its deficit. He also suggested that the Rector be invited to address the Board and to explain what the fee will cover.

(8:00)

6. Question Period:

Francois Desrosiers asked what the status of the Engineering and Computer Science Students' Association was at present. Karen Takacs stated that two meetings had been set up, but the Engineers did not attend, nor did they leave any messages, nor have they demonstrated any willingness to get in touch. She added that the "options for the future with ECA" should be on the Agenda at the next Board meeting.

Susan Hunt asked whether there would be any Senate positions left open for new students as had been done in the past. Scott Robertson stated that he

was unaware of what had been done in the past, and asked if it was realistic to hold places. Suan Hunt argued for continuity. Karen Takacs felt that the intention was to leave some seats open, and stated that she was unaware that the Hiring Committee had made a decision. Emma Tibaldo stated that the Hiring Committee had not decided. Scott White stated that in the past it was probably not as important to fill the seats because there were 17 at the time; however, now that there are only 10 seats, he felt that it was more important to have the seats filled than to risk holding some for new students.

7. Unfinished Business:

a) Unsolicited Member's Report on the Hiring Committee:

Chairperson John Moore distributed the report submitted by Nazzareno Gabrielli (BD-51-D3) on the Hiring Committee concerning the appointment of the Chairperson, Orientation. Chairperson John Moore asked if any action was being taken in regard to this report. Scott White explained the circumstances leading to the submission of this report, and it was understood that misleading information was relayed to Nazzareno Gabrielli by a person not connected with the Hiring Committee, and his affiliation with the Intra-Fraternity Council was not a factor in the Hiring Committee's decision.

9. Adjournment:

Chairperson John Moore stated that there was no more business on the Agenda that could be dealt with without quorum, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

John Moore, Chairperson

Jo Howard, Recording Secretary